FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol VI No 021

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ALFONSIN MEETING WITH UK'S KINNOCK DENIED

PY310258 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1922 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Athens, 30 Jan (DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin and three other leaders who attended the peace and disarmament summit will meet tomorrow with approximately 50 personalities from various parts of the world to urge them to support the objective of raising consciousness among the world's public about the need to promote peace and disarmament.

In addition to Alfonsin, the meeting will be attended by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, and Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere. The list of personalities includes U.S. economist John Kenneth Galbraith; Soviet Academy of Sciences Director Yevgeniy Yelikhov; former French Prime Minister Edgar Faure; and Keith Best, from Great Britain.

It has also been confirmed that the British opposition leader, Laborite Neil Kinnock, will not attend the meeting. A report that Kinnock would meet Alfonsin has been categorically denied by official sources in the Argentine delegation.

IRANIAN DELEGATION VISITS TO DISCUSS TRADE

'Concealment' of Visit Viewed

PY301345 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Jan 85 pp 1, 4

[Column by J. Iglesias Ruoco: "Discreet"]

[Excerpt] Government House should put an end to pressure and concealment. For example: The presidency has not yet said a single word about the presence in Buenos Aires of an Iranian delegation that arrived from Managua (where it unleashed a strong defense of the Sandinist regime and attacks on the U.S. Government). As far as we know, this delegation is about to contact the Government Oil Deposits and other state enterprises to negotiate the sale of Iranian oil to Argentina with the purpose of balancing the balance of payments between the two nations (favorable to Argentina by $400 million) in exchange perhaps for the purchase of Argentine weapons by Iran (Teheran recently froze an importation project of several dozen Argentine Medium Tanks. German Lopez reportedly supports the visit by the Iranian delegation and its proposals.

Press Conference Held

PY310014 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1378 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (DYN) -- At a press conference held at the Iranian Embassy in this capital today, it was announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran will probably buy such manufactured products as steel and electrical appliances from Argentina, in addition to the primary products it is already purchasing.

Mohammad Hoseyn Adeli, the Iranian trade coordinating secretary, believes that it is possible that Argentine-Iranian trade, which totals $1 billion, will substantially increase in the future.

The other members of the economic mission are Javad Yarjani, director of the Economic Department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry; Mas'ud Maleki, an economic expert; Jafar Hamedi-Izadi, an Oil Ministry representative; and 'Ali Daryaniyan, a Commerce Ministry representative. All of these delegation members have held talks with Argentine officials in different fields.

Adeli said that the negotiations being carried have two aspects: a political one, in keeping with the long-standing relations between the two countries, and an economic aspect.

Regarding the economic aspect, Adeli said that Iran's efforts are concentrated on increasing and modifying the current relations.

Up to this time, he said, Iran has only bought primary products like vegetable grains, but it now intends to buy manufactured products, especially steel and electrical appliances as well as other products.

Iran will pay Argentina back with oil, which Argentina will process and then sell on the international market.

In response to a question, Adeli replied that "we are not here to buy weapons or any other war material." He added that before the Islamic Revolution, his country's foreign debt amounted to $13 million, but now it has been reduced to zero.

In conclusion, he said that Iranian nuclear energy research was interrupted when the Islamic Revolution started, but that it has been resumed. The final stage of installing an atomic reactor, with "peaceful objectives," is about to be concluded, Adeli said.

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFED ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR

PY301935 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1654 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Jan (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo at noon today met with Iraqi Ambassador Mundhir Ahmad al-Mutlaq, Saudi Ambassador Shaykh Fu'ad Ahmad al-Nazir, and Moroccan Ambassador Mohamed Boucetta Bouas, with whom he discussed the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The three ambassadors gave the Argentine foreign minister a communique from the Arab Ministerial Committee, which follows the development of the Iran-Iraq conflict. The communique, dated 21 January 1985, calls for a cease-fire.

The committee is made up of representatives from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, the Yemen Arab Republic, and the General Secretariat of the Arab League.

The three Arab diplomats also announced that a special mission headed by the Iraqi foreign minister and made up of the under secretaries for foreign relations of Kuwait, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia and a representative of the Arab League will probably visit Argentina as part of an effort to bring peace to the Persian Gulf.

Meanwhile, the Argentine Foreign Ministry has reported that the Iranian charge d'affairs and a special Iranian trade mission currently visiting Argentina met with the Argentine foreign minister yesterday. The mission has also contacted the Foreign Trade Secretariat and the National Grain Board.

BUDGET MESSAGE CALLS FOR REDUCING INFLATION

PY301650 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] (NA) -- The draft budget for 1985 has as its main objective to cut down the deficit in order to substantially reduce the inflation rate during the year, the government said in its message sent to Congress together with the bill.

The message said the curtailing of inflation was basic because the success of other objectives depended on it such as a growth in economic activity, the increase of real wages and higher public and private investment.

The 1985 budget continued the policy of putting the administration in order which was begun last year with a transitional budgetary process which will have to be continued, the message said.

It said anti-inflationary activity will be intensified during 1985 and predicted a moderate growth in economic activity during the year during which real wages will be safeguarded by means of monthly adjustments and unspecified periodical corrections.

Such adjustments and corrections will be established bearing in mind the need of ensuring they are compatible with the government's objectives, the message said.

It added the growth process will be based on an increase of exports combined with a gradual expansion of the domestic market. The message reaffirmed the priority of the export policy when it said "in the present circumstances it has been decided to give priority to investment projects associated with internationally saleable goods."

The government said encouragement of private investment required a reconversion of the financial system and promised this would be implemented this year to channel credit towards the most productive activities.

But the government will not use the exchange rate as an instrument of anti-inflationary policy although the bolstering of the exchange rate was an indispensable condition to boost exports, the message said.

However, the government will simplify the exchange system and will eliminate restrictions on payments and remittances abroad, it added.

ARMED FORCES BUDGET UNCHANGED FROM 1984

PY301640 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Jan 85 p 13

[Text] (NA) -- Defence Production Secretary Raul Tomas affirmed yesterday that the 1985 Armed Forces budget would be the same as 1984 in real terms. Tomas, while admitting that last year's cutbacks were "more than desirable, operationally speaking," said no military industrial project would suffer for lack of funds this year. Speaking on Radio Continental, the Defence Ministry official said the military budget was a little over three percent of the Gross National Product, which corresponds to 14.5 percent of public spending. He said difficulties with Army suppliers was due to lack of coordination between expense planning and the availability of funds from the National Treasury. Tomas stressed that the Ministry's aim was to "reorganize and modernize the Armed Forces."

FACTORY WORKERS DEMONSTRATE IN DOWNTOWN LA PAZ

PY301924 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Walter Delgadillo, secretary general of the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB], has warned against the threat that the private sector which is linked to drug trafficking and dollar speculation on the black market poses to the working class of the entire country. In a statement he made to a large gathering in San Francisco Square, Delgadillo referred directly to the activities of private banks which he said were against the national interests.

The workers of all the factories of this city held demonstrations in their areas and then gathered at San Francisco Square, where they were told about the negotiations the COB is carrying out with the government.

The public protest was aimed at demanding the fulfillment of the arbitration passed by a special court established at the Labor Ministry that authorized a 200-percent salary increase. The factory workers then demonstrated through the streets of downtown La Paz, creating a tense atmosphere in public and private offices.

INFORMATION MINISTER WELCOMES ALASEI NEW AGENCY

PY260210 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Information Minister Mario Ruedo Pena said that the presence in our country of the LATIN AMERICA AGENCY FOR SPECIAL INFORMATION SERVICES [ALASEI] marks the presence of Bolivia in the international arena. The minister made this statement during a ceremony held this morning at the Journalists Association to welcome the ALASEI authorities. Journalists, government authorities, and special guests were at the ceremony. Despite an announcement, President Hernan Siles Zuazo was not present.

ALASEI representative in Bolivia Jose Valdivia said that the creation of this press agency responds to the unpostponable need to grant the region its own new agency.

COMPARISON OF NEVES 17 JANUARY PRESS CONFERENCE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portugese on 18 January carries on pages 4 through 7 the text of the press conference held by President-elect Tancredo Neves on 17 January. The O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO version has been compared with the Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes version published in the 18 January Latin America DAILY REPORT, pages D 1-D 13, revealing the following variations:

Page D 1, paragraph eight, last line reads: ...sector's deficit which is far from being under control... (rewording)

Page D 2, paragraph five, lines two and three reads: ...capital goods, and so on, is practically over. (supply words indistinct)

Same page, paragraph seven, line two reads: ...and districts through the transference of resources. (supplying words indistinct)

Page D 3, last paragraph, lines two through four reads: ...journalist Castelo Branco. In democratic regimes, the contact between the head of the nation and the media is ... (supplying words indistinct and rewording)

Page D 4, paragraph two, lines eight and nine reads: ...do is to have this organization attend to its specific duties and again turn... (rewording)

Page D 5, paragraph five reads: [Reporter] Agenello Alves, TRIBUNA of Una do Norte, Natal, Radio Cabogi of Natal, and Radio Difusora do Mossoro. Your Excellency, in your answer to the first question, you stressed that the resumption of economic growth is the main target. How will the northeastern region participate in the growth resumption progress? [New paragraph] [Neves] As I have... (supplying question indistinct)

Page D 7, paragraph one, lines four and five reads: ...this must be understood once and for all [applause], because workers can... (supplying words indistinct and rewording)

Same page, paragraph five, line one reads: [Reporter] Francois Casteran, AFP. Mr President-elect, regarding... (supplying reporter's name and affiliation)

Same page, last paragraph, lines three and four reads: ...our property abroad. I don't dare support the theory... (supplying words indistinct)

Same page, same paragraph, line eight reads: ...serious as Brazil is honoring its financial... (supplying words indistinct)

Page D 8, paragraph two, line one reads: [Reporter] Luis Gutember, JOSE weekly. One of the commitments you made to the people was a promise to restore free labor unions... (supplying reporter's name and rewording)

Same page, paragraph three, lines four and five reads: ...particularly the violent cancellation of union charters [New paragraph] What we would... (supplying words indistinct and rewording)

Same page, paragraph four, lines one and two reads: ..that Brazilian unions enter a new stage. This... (supplying words indistinct)

Same page, same paragraph, lines four and five reads: ...believe that unions are going to give up this source of income. Perhaps what has... (supplying words indistinct and rewording)

Same page, paragraph five, line one reads: [Reporter] Helio Fernandes, TRIBUNA DE IMPRENSA. Some of the... (supplying reporter's name and affiliation)

Same page, paragraph seven, line four reads: ...stop building these monuments of iron and cement and turn... (correcting queried words)

Same page, last paragraph, lines four and five reads: ...health, their housing, and their sanitary conditions. (supplying words indistinct)

Page D 9, paragraph one, lines two and three reads: ...will make Brazilians trust their fatherland... (rewording)

Same page, paragraph two, line one reads: [Reporter] Roberto Fernandes, JORNAL DO BRASIL. Sir, are you... (supplying reporter's name and affiliation)

Same page, paragraph three, lines three through five reads: ...the constitutional amendments calling for direct elections at the municipal level. Consequently, this problem is not in the hands of the president... (clearing queried word and supplying words indistinct)

Same page, paragraph four, line one reads: [Reporter] I am Alvaro Perera of O GLOBO... (clearing queried name)

Same page, paragraph five, line two reads: ...not like to have unanimity, which would be... (suplying queried word)

Same page, paragraph eight, line five reads: ...our financial situation. To promote the... (rewording)

Page D 10, paragraph two, line one reads: [Reporter] Tarso de Castro, FOLHA DE SAO PAULO. Mr President, there... (supplying reporter's name and affiliation)

Same page, paragraph nine, line one reads: [Reporter] Umberto Gianini from the Italian... (clearing reporter's name)

Page D 11, paragraph one, lines three and four reads: ...I believe that it would be an important aspect of continental integration, if we manage to create a common front free of radicialism, which will allow us to... (supplying passage indistinct and rewording)

Same page, paragraph two, line one reads: [Reporter] Armando Sobral Rollenberg from ISTO E magazine. Mr... (clearing name)

Same page, paragraph three, last line reads: ...without major problems. [New paragraph] Some of the... (rewording and confirming no words indistinct)

Same page, paragraph ten, line six reads: ...that our government expects to receive from... (clearing queried word)

Same page, last paragraph, line one reads: [Reporter] Carlos Haracio, CLARIN of Buenos Aires. Mr President could... (supplying reporter's name)

Page D 12, paragraph three, lines two and three reads: ...our relations today follow a very definite course. We do not... (clearing queried phrase)

Same page, paragraph nine, line one reads: [Reporter] Yuriy Pertelho from TASS. Mr Neves, you... (supplying reporter's name)

BRIEFS

DAILY OIL OUTPUT -- On 14 January Petrobras reached a record oil output of 631,000 barrels daily, Petrobras President Admiral Thelmo Dutra de Rezende has reported. By the end of 1984, oil and gas reserves totaled 2.55 billion barrels, oil accounting for 2.03 billion barrels. [Excerpts] [Rio de Janiero O GLOBO in Portuguese 16 Jan 85 p 31 PY]

U.S. GUARANTEES RESPECT FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS

PA301725 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Bogota -- The U.S. Government has given assurances and guarantees that it will respect the human and procedural rights of the four Colombians who have been extradited. Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzalez has confirmed that he has received a note from the U.S. Government in reply to his message on respect for the human and procedural rights of Hernan Botero, Marcos Cadavid, and the Pabon brothers who were extradited to the United States, where they are being prosecuted for laundering money and drug trafficking.

LEHDER RIVAS ANNOUNCES CREATION OF ARMY

PA302156 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 8 A

[Text] Carlos Lehder Rivas, wanted by U.S. authorities for drug trafficking, returned to the country recently and went into hiding, from where he announced the organization of half a million men armed to fight extradition.

The drug trafficker, who some time ago was the leader of the Nationalist Latin Movement, reported an alleged alliance with Ivan Marino Ospina, top leader of 19 April Movement [M-19]. He also mentioned having several members of the Army police on his side.

Lehder Rivas said that his former political movement will be made into a guerrilla organization and that he is willing to participate in the national dialogue.

Ledher Rivas was out of the country for more than 6 months after President Belisario Betancur signed an extradition resolution.

Lehder Rivas said he will surrender to the authorities if extraditions are suspended so that he can prove that he does not owe anything and has committed no crime.

He added that his objective is to form, with the help of nationalist military members, an army to defend the country's sovereignty against U.S. and Soviet imperialism.

Lehder Rivas, dressed in a military uniform and sporting long hair, talked to newsmen, telling them he will fight to defend the country's sovereignty. He said that television and other entities belonging to the people will be returned to the people.

Official sources made no comment regarding Lehder Rivas' statements.

ARMY REPORTS IRAN POSSIBLY SUPPLYING ARMS TO M-19

PA310216 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Jan 85 p 8 A

[Text] Yesterday military intelligence began to investigate the supposed entry of a large shipment of arms from Iran for the M-19, arms allegedly used in the latest attack in Corinto by that guerrilla group.

An Army source told EL TIEMPO that there have been reports that, through an Iran-Cuba-Nicaragua network, there are efforts to supply arms to the guerrilla groups that operate in South America, including the M-19 and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

Last year the Army discovered a Libyan airplane laden with weapons for the M-19, which the rebels were trying to bring into the country from Brazil. They planned to leave the arms in an area of the southern forest where one of the group's commando units, directed by Gustavo Arias Londono, operates.

The source said it was established in Corinto for the first time that the M-19 is using arms sent from different countries to the 400 guerrillas in the trenches and the 150 who operate aboveaground.

Besides arms, the guerrillas are also receiving war supplies, such as uniforms, canteens, belts, boots, and tents, as well as powerful communications equipment which they have received secretly by way of the Pacific.

The aforementioned airplane allegedly entered the country more than a month ago, at night, and left the arms at Caqueta and Putumayo, where the M-19 supply camps are located, the security organization spokesman said.

The materiel received also included grenades, mortars, and a great deal of ammunition. The first arms shipment for the M-19, the military sources said, arrived in the country in 1983 and were purchased by Jaime Guillot. The airplane that brought them stopped in Brazil en route to Colombia.

After a Hercules C-130 airplane supportedly carrying medicine was intercepted, it was established that the plane also carried a shipment intended for the Nicaraguan guerrillas. [as published]

The airplanes usually arrive at night to avoid detection by the Army. Kenneth Oliver, a pilot arrested in 1983 in Brazil, said that most of the arms sent from Libya are for Colombian guerrillas.

CHIARINO NAMED DEFENSE MINISTER-DESIGNATE

PY291715 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Report by (Martin Les) from Columbia Palace Hotel]

[Excerpt] President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti is now meeting in his offices at the Columbia Palace Hotel with the head of the Civic Union, Juan Vicente Chiarino, who came to tell him that he accepts the offer to become the national defense minister. This decision was made last night by the National Executive Board of the Civic Union and this is why Chiarino is now meeting with Julio Maria Sanguinetti to tell him that he will join his cabinet as minister of defense.

This morning Sanguinetti also held an important meeting with Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Lebedev. At the conclusion of the meeting the Soviet diplomat declined to make any comments, only indicating that it was a private meeting.

Discusses Reducing Personnel

PY301415 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0302 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Montevideo, 29 Jan (EFE) -- Juan Vicente Chiarino, the defense minister-designate under the administration that will take over on 1 March, today stated that the most complex task that he will face will be the reduction of the number of members of the Armed Forces.

Chiarino, 83, a seasoned socialist-Christian politician, has accepted the post that President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti has offered him and, in statements to EFE has stated that the reduction of military personnel will be made in a gradual and well-planned fashion. Chiarino added that one cannot give rise to an upheaval leading to a surge in unemployment, as proposed by other politicians.

Chiarino, a leader of the small Civic Union party, stressed that it is imperative for the country to reduce the number of military personnel.

It is estimated that the combined personnel of the military and police totals 60,000 in Uruguay.

Chiarino has been chosen by Sanguinetti to accomplish one of the most difficult tasks that the new government will face: the reorganization of the Armed Forces and the return of the military to their professional field after 11 years of dictatorship.

Upon accepting the post that was offered to him, Chiarino stated that he will have to work hard, with great restraint and realistically, but without haste and with firmness. All this shows that the problem is not simple, but I will try to overcome it with assistants who will advise me and will give me an opportunity to do my best, Chiarino added.

BRIEFS

NEW BRIGADIER GENERAL NAMED -- Luis E. Revello Ellis has been designated as a brigadier general by the Air Force qualifications board. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 18 Jan 85 p 5 PY]

COPEI LEADER ON EFFECTS OF OPEC OIL PRICE CUT

PA310242 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Report by Ernesto Vega]

[Text] The cut in oil prices agreed to by OPEC member countries will represent a considerable decrease in our country's fiscal budget, according to COPEI parliamentary leader Dr Abdon Vivas Teran.

[Begin recording] A cut of, let us say $2 in the average price per barrel, at 100,000 barrels per day, represents a considerable decrease, approximately $1.5 billion or 6 billion bolivares, for the Venezuelan fiscal budget and our foreign exchange revenue.

In addition to the economic impact, which will be evaluated with more precision when all the details are revealed, our main problem is to establish a strategy regarding OPEC. Venezuela must remain in the organization, but the organization must reorganize its tasks, functions, role, and goals. OPEC cannot continue clinging to the traditional policies it has followed for 15 years. Fundamental changes are necessary, and the Venezuelan Government must become aware of this need.

Unfortunately, we have ministers who do not seem to understand the situation; OPEC has not perceived it either. I think OPEC's biggest mistake was not foreseeing the deep changes that its own price strategy of the 1970's would unleash on the structure of the industrialized countries' oil production and consumption.

A general reorganization is now necessary to find long-term solutions. In the short term OPEC must absorb this cut in prices; otherwise, it will continue to lose markets. It has already lost markets to Mexico, the North Sea, and Egypt. It is about time the organization acted with more diligence. However, it must also be aware that it still has important resources at hand in the long term. [end recording]

MORALES PAUL ON UPCOMING TALKS WITH GUYANA

PA300444 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Report by Luis Alfredo Gomez]

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul, who will travel to Guyana on 6 February for a 3-day official visit, today received instructions from President Jaime Lusinchi regarding the renewal of talks with the Guyanese Government on resolving the dispute over the Essequibo region. After the meeting with President Lusinchi in Miraflores Palace, Foreign Minister Morales Paul talked with some journalists.

[Begin recording -- broadcast in progress] [Morales Paul] ...All the points discussed with the president, basically the preparation of my trip to Guyana and the instructions that [corrects himself] and the orientation received from the president regarding the topics to be discussed there.

[Reporter] What was that orientation?

[Morales Paul] Well, that is somewhat... [rephrases] I cannot discuss that.

[Reporter] What are the contents of the agenda?

[Morales Paul] We will discuss the border dispute, as revealed by Noel Sinclair, Guyanese ambassador to the UN. We will discuss border problems, but we will also discuss other topics, including health measures, [words indistinct] canals, agriculture, and so on.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, does this contact with Guyana represent a renewal of Mr (Cordovez') [not further identified] activities? Is this a fact?

[Morales Paul] It is included in the framework of [words indistinct] and Mr (Cordovez) is fully aware of this. He said publicly that he was aware of this, and this will surely help establish contacts between the parties.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, regarding the talks with your Guyanese counterpart, can you find a way for direct negotiations between Venezuela and Guyana?

[Morales Paul] Perhaps, the parties are responsible for their dispute, as you know.

[Question indistinct]

[Morales Paul] They are sovereign and may seek the solutions considered necessary. [end recording]

UNDER SECRETARY VALERO DEPARTS FOR MANAGUA

FL301130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0245 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The official spokesman of Mexico's Foreign Secretariat has reported that this office's Under Secretary for Cultural Affairs Ricardo Valero today departed for Nicaragua where he will hold discussions on the Contadora Group's next meeting.

Valero will meet with Nicaraguan officials on the meeting of the Venezuelan, Panamanian, Colombia, and Mexican heads of state [as received] scheduled for 14 and 15 February in Panama.

At this time it is unknown whether Valero will tour other Central American nations.

According to reports from Managua, Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera will also arrive in Nicaragua today.

Next month's meeting will discuss the final version of the Central American peace and cooperation document which seeks to reduce the number of military advisers, foreign troops, and weapons in the region while stimulating democratic practices.

Honduras', El Salvador's, and Costa Rica's attendance at the 14-15 February meeting has been conditioned on resolving the incident at the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua last month concerning Nicaraguan exile Urbina Lara.

FRG OFFICIALS STOP OVER FOLLOWING REGION TOUR

FL301746 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Juergen Moellemann, FRG minister of state in the Foreign Ministry and Kullak Ublick [as received], FRG Foreign Ministry director for Latin America, arrived in Mexico City today from Guatemala.

The German officials are here following a tour of Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, where they met with heads of state to learn about the political situation following elections in Nicaragua and the United States.

During their stay, scheduled for a few hours, they spoke with Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Alfonso Rosenzweig Diaz.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ ON POSTPONEMENT OF CONTADORA MEETING

PA310257 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Jan 85

[William Cespedes telephone report from the Presidential Palace -- live]

[Text] The Contadora Group's efforts to mediate the conflict between Costa Rica and Nicaragua that resulted from the kidnapping of Nicaraguan refugee Jose Manuel Urbina Lara from the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua on 24 December have failed. A meeting scheduled for tomorrow in Panama, to be attended by members of the Contadora Group and the deputy foreign ministers of Costa Rica, Jorge Urbina, and of Nicaragua, Jose Leon Talavera, has been postponed. Therefore, the Contadora Group's mediation has failed so far.

The Security Council is meeting at this moment at the Presidential Palace to review this and other issues, on which we will be providing details in a few minutes. Meanwhile, we must report that Deputy Foreign Minister Urbina, who was prepared to travel to Panama, was told by the foreign minister [not further identified] in Panama City that he should suspend his trip because the Nicaraguan Government had not accepted the conditions for seeking a solution through the Contadora Group.

Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has made statements about the postponement of the meeting scheduled to be held tomorrow by Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the Contadora Group. He did not describe this as a failure, but said that some aspects remain to be defined, adding that there is a possibility of tying up some loose ends in the search for a solution. Gutierrez reiterated, however, that no other topic will be discussed by the Contadora Group until the Urbina Lara case is resolved.

[Begin recording -- broadcast in progress] [Gutierrez] ...The respective negotiation while [word indistinct], we can say the meeting has been postponed. Let us see (?what happens). It will be held one of these days after all of the details are settled.

[Reporter] (?May we know which details?)

[Gutierrez] I don't think so. I don't think so, because what we should do is allow the Contadora Group, whose efforts we appreciate very much, to see to it that the bases of negotiation between the two countries are well established.

[Reporter] Can it be said that Nicaragua is not accepting the conditions for opening the negotiations?

[Gutierrez] No. I think it is too early to say that there are fixed positions. Actually, they held talks yesterday in Managua; we held talks here today and reported our positions to Managua in the afternoon, and, well, some points remain to be clarified before the negotiation on the main issue [fondo] can take place.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, won't this be too slow? Please remember that the delegations to the talks between Vietnam and the United States in Paris spent about 5 months discussing how to sit at the table. [end recording]

These were the statements by Foreign Minister Gutierrez about the postponement of the meeting for seeking a solution to the conflict between Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

TENORIO ON CONTADORA'S ROLE IN ACHIEVING STABILITY

FL310224 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2224 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio has said that the Salvadoran people and government trust that the peace-seeking efforts of the Contadora Group will bear fruit soon in achieving economic, political, and social stability in Central America.

The diplomat, who was on a private visit to Mexico, stressed that the work of the foreign ministers of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama represents the only viable solution to the problems of Central America. It is for this reason, he said, that the next meeting of the Contadora Group will be decisive in beginning a definitive stage in the process of stabilizing that area.

In answer to questions on El Salvador's present situation, Eduardo Tenorio said that despite the climate of violence that still reigns in El Salvador, the government of Jose Napoleon Duarte is dedicated to carrying out a pure, firm, and pluralistic democratic process that will lead to peace. He said: The coming elections, which will be held in March, will play an important role in establishing democratic life in El Salvador. This objective has the support of all registered political parties, whose platforms call for lasting peace. He added that the government party is confident it will obtain a majority of votes, which will make it possible to implement a firm, solid government program that will create conditions favorable to achieving stability in that Central American nation.

With regard to the talks that the Salvadoran Government has held with the insurgent forces, he said they have been positive and, while they have not led to peace, they have not worsened internal problems. He stated that there is a widespread desire to achieve peace in his country, because the Salvadoran people have suffered from the consequences of that civil war for several years.

Finally, Jorge Eduardo Tenorio stressed that El Salvador has achieved notable progress in human rights, which has been confirmed by various international commissions that have visited El Salvador as observers.

U.S. HELICOPTERS TO ARRIVE; BRAZILIAN DESERTS FMLN

PA300406 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Jan 85

[By Raul Beltran]

[Excerpt] U.S. Embassy sources have confirmed that several Huey UH-1H helicopters will be added to the Salvadoran Air Force in the next few days as part of the U.S. Government's aid to the Salvadoran Air Force, which will include 50 Huey UH-1H helicopters. In addition, we confirmed this morning that four Hughes 500 helicopters -- a more advanced and sophisticated model with a wider range of action -- will also be delivered to the Salvadoran Air Force by the U.S. Government. The four Hughes 500 helicopters will be equipped with two Minigun machine guns which fire approximately 5,000 rounds per minute. These helicopters are part of the additions to the Air Force in the near future, as confirmed by U.S. diplomatic sources today.

In addition, the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, presented Brazilian national (Mario Osamo Namura), a 33-year-old native of Parana who said he is a member of the Brazilian Communist Party and supports its socialist ideology. This allowed him, through contacts in Nicaragua, to join the Salvadoran guerrilla groups. He said he had arrived in the country legally and had been sent to train a platoon of men in Morazan Department for a monthly salary. (Osamo Namura), who deserted from the FMLN ranks approximately 15 days ago, made a statement to the press through an interpreter.

COPREFA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON 'NEW CRIME WAVE'

PA302231 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 30 Jan 85 pp 2, 25

[Text] In response to a resurgence of apparently inexplicable crimes, the Armed Forces have stated that no one will prevent them from exercising their constitutional mandate to safeguard the Salvadoran people's security. In a communique issued yesterday by the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa], reference is made to the deaths of two young students last Saturday, for which no terrorist group has claimed responsibility, and which are added to other murders that took place last week. The worsening of this wave of violence, in which crime and destruction are further aggravating the country's political situation, has so worried the military authorities that they have issued a manifesto which appears to be a warning to the groups or sectors which somehow could be involved in these incidents. The Coprefa communique states:

Indiscriminate murders. Two more persons have been shot to death as a result of terrorist violence, which has continued to prevail so far this year. This time, two young students were indiscriminately murdered last Saturday, 26 January. No group has claimed responsibility for this action. The Armed Forces, in response to the new crime wave that has been unleashed in our country and that violates human rights, states that:

1. It views with deep sadness the little value sick persons attach to life.

2. Over a year ago, the Army promised the people that it would fight against violence, whatever its source.

3. No group or sector will prevent the Army from exercising its constitutional mandate, which is to safeguard the Salvadoran people's security,

4. It reiterates to the Salvadoran people that as it works to achieve the peace that our people so desire, it will not rest until it has eradicated the violence that is causing so much grief.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES MEETS WITH FRG'S MOELLEMANN

PA301736 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] During a 1-hour meeting with Guatemalan Head of State General Mejia Victores, FRG Minister of State in the Foreign Ministry Juergen Moellemann analyzed the Guatemalan situation and the Central American problems. Mejia Victores, who was accompanied by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, explained to the visitor that a process to return to democracy is being carried out in the country and that it will culminate with presidential elections that will be held after the constitution is approved.

Moellemann briefed the Guatemalan head of state on his visits to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, and El Salvador and told him of the importance that the FRG gives to the Central American countries' peace and development.

Moellemann also held meetings today with leaders of Guatemala's various political parties, including the Socialist Party presently being organized. He also met with Catholic Church leaders. Moellemann unexpectedly canceled a dinner to which the presidential candidates had been invited. However, he met separately with some of them. This was the reason why he visited the newspaper EL GRAFICO whose director, Jorge Carpio, is the candidate of the Union of National Center and other parties.

PR DEPUTY REVEALS COUP ATTEMPTS BY MILITARY

PA301533 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The situation within the Revolutionary Party [PR] has worsened due to a confrontation between members of the rearguard and the current leadership. During a meeting held last night, several members faced the danger of being sanctioned or even expelled from the party.

PR Deputy Roberto Alejos Cambra said yesterday that there have been several military attempts to overthrow the present head of state. The deputy added that because of these military movements, several members of the Army have been arrested. Deputy Roberto Alejos Cambra did not offer further details regarding his sensational disclosure on coup d'etat attempts against General Oscar Mejia Victores' regime, but did say that the military men involved in these attempts are possibly being held at the general headquarters or Castillo Matamoros as it is called. Deputy Alejos Cambra did not specify when these attempts against General Oscar Mejia Victores took place.

PSD'S SOLORZANO PROPOSES SOCIAL AGREEMENT

PA300443 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The top leader of the Democratic Socialist Party [PSD] last night proposed a social agreement to extricate the country from its current dilemma. The PSD secretary general, who returned from exile on Saturday, told "The Independent" newscast that in order to find solutions to the nation's problems, it is necessary that the government, the workers, and the private sector sit at the negotiating table.

Mario Solorzano Martinez, the new PSD secretary general, said that a pluralistic and peaceful dialogue must be promoted. The fact that we think differently does not mean that we have to kill each other, said the Socialist leader, who has just returned from exile. You will now hear Solorzano's statements:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] and, besides, because we are serious. I think that we have demonstrated our seriousness by returning to Guatemala to apply for registration immediately. As you know, we filed our application for registration this morning [words indistinct] formation of political parties. (?At this moment) this decision only serves to underscore this seriousness, which we want to maintain and which we have historically maintained.

Finally, we constitute a new kind of party because we have a clear-cut democratic stance. We have returned without hatred or grudges and are seriously determined to find a democratic solution.

We think that the current government leaders have a major historical responsibility and that our ability to find a solution depends largely on them. However, we think that all Guatemalans have a historical responsibility as well and we earnestly assume our snare of it.

Naturally, this distances us from the traditional political parties and from less-than-serious political practices. I would say this sets us apart, too -- and I don't mean to give this a disparaging connotation -- from the country's old political generations. We really represent a new political generation which, I would say, has a profound knowledge of our nation's reality [words indistinct] through constant practice in over more than 30 years of struggle in Guatemala.

This is the first point I wanted to stress. The second point we want to underscore, and one which deeply worries us, is our current economic and social crisis. As of today, it would seem that the idea is that the crisis will simply be solved by the government or simply solved by the private sector. We think that this is a time when we should strive to reach a new social agreement, which must include a role for the Guatemalan popular sectors, which suffer the most from economic crises. This is not only necessary, it is fundamental if we wish to find a democratic solution that will be taken into account by the Guatemalan union sector.

It is for this reason that we are talking about a new social agreement in which the fundamental factors of production in our country, the private sector and the workers, must be represented. Obviously, those who are responsible for managing the country at this moment, that is, the government, must have a role in it, too.

If the interests of Guatemalan workers are not taken into account, all we will be doing is heading toward a situation in which it will be really impossible to build a democratic society. From this standpoint, we think that the PSD's return to [word indistinct] is a contribution not only to a political solution, but to a solution to the economic crisis as well.

Why do we say this? Because there is great distrust among foreign and local investors as a result of the political instability in our country. We feel that our presence may create the conditions for political stability if we indeed resort to pluralism and peaceful methods to reach an understanding. Obviously, our presence will serve to create greater economic and social stability and, in addition, the Guatemalan working class will have us as effective representatives of its interests, to which we are pledged.

In conclusion, we wish this to be viewed as a historical project of a permanent nature. We are not thinking of a political party for election purposes. We are not thinking of becoming organized simply to seek deputy seats. We are not thinking of becoming organized simply because [words indistinct] in our leadership has political aspirations.

It is not so. We are thinking of creating a duly structured party with historical staying power in our country. I think that we have demonstrated so far that we have the organizational capacity, the structure, and great hopes in our people. We are really [word indistinct] the desire of the Guatemalan people to find a peaceful solution and a democratic path. [end recording]

BRIEFS

SPANISH AMBASSADOR ARRIVES -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade expressed his satisfaction over the arrival of Spanish Ambassador to Guatemala Jose Luis Crespo, following the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries in August 1984. [Summary] [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1921 GMT 28 Jan 85 PA]

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES ANNOUNCE 'BIG PINE III' MANEUVERS

PA301512 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 29 Jan 85 p 3

[Announcement issued by the Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 28 January]

[Text] The "Big Pine III" joint Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers which took place in 1983-84 will continue in Honduras beginning on 11 February and will end on 3 May 1985. The exercise will involve the participation of U.S. and Honduran military personnel and it will be divided into three phases:

1. The preparatory phase will include the deployment of the task forces with all support elements, engineering works to improve the landing strips and taxi fields at San Lorenzo and Cucuyagua airstrips, drilling of water wells, and the limited preparation of and improvement on anti-tank obstacles and combat posts near Choluteca. This phase will begin on 11 February 1985 with the deployment of the engineering task force and will end on 12 April.

2. The phase of joint and combined anti-tank training exercises will begin on 8 April 1985 with an exhibition of armored and mechanized vehicles in San Lorenzo, Valle Department. It will include 5 days of maneuver exercises and will conclude with a ceremony on 13 April in Choluteca, Choluteca Department.

3. The joint-combined counterinsurgency training exercise will take place from 15 to 21 April 1985 in the remote Yoro region, in northcentral Honduras. It will end with a ceremony on 21 April in the Yoro Valley.

These exercises are scheduled to end on 3 May 1985, when participating units will begin to mobilize to return to their duty stations.

TIEMPO COMMENTS ON FREEZING OF U.S. ECONOMIC AID

PA302225 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Jan 85 p 6

[Editorial: "United States Freezes Economic Aid to Honduras"]

[Excerpts] As Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova was stating that Honduras' economic situation "showed irrefutable signs of recovery last year" in his message to the National Congress, the U.S. Government proceeded to freeze $147.5 million that the Economic Assistance Fund, through the Agency for International Development, AID, had approved for 1985 because, according to the U.S. Government, the Honduran Government cannot guarantee that the aid will be used properly.

The U.S. decision was announced by John Dimitri Negroponte, U.S. ambassador to Honduras, during a speech before the Honduran-American Chamber of Commerce on 24 January. The announcement can be interpreted only as an unexpected statement that implies that in the eyes of the United States, our government is incapable of grappling with the country's economic problems.

The U.S. Government spokesman stated that foreign aid cannot replace trade (and investment) and that "misunderstandings among the Honduran Government, the private sector, foreign investors, and labor obstruct the implementation of economic adjustments and put off investment."

A statement of this nature by a representative of the U.S. Government has an immediate effect on international financial institutions such as the World Bank, the IDB, and the IMF, where the weight of decisions lies with the United States. This makes our problem of international reserves more acute because the frozen funds would, if deposited at the Central Bank, bolster Honduras' reserves, while their freeze shuts off an important source of foreign exchange.

Ambassador Negroponte did not delve much in to the meaning of "economic adjustment measures," but on other occasions he has clearly advocated devaluing the lempira. Honduran sectors have raised serious objections to this proposal, due to the disastrous effects such a move would have on the Honduran people.

The U.S. Government has only expressed such radical positions toward governments which it openly opposes, as was the case with Guatemala during the Arbenz administration, Chile during Allende's time, and Cuba under Fidel Castro. The statement reflects a very drastic position on the part of the Reagan administration toward Honduras.

It must be recognized that the Honduran Government has not been up to par in its handling of the economic problem and that it has wasted 3 years and much gunpowder on divisionism and petty politics.

The Caribbean Basin Initiative is no solution for Honduras either, because it is like an Ambrose carbine [expression meaning useless] that the U.S. Government uses to argue that it is willing to help us at a time when they act out of good faith, not reason.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA ON U.S. 'AGGRESSIVE' POLICY, MANZANILLO TALKS

PM302116 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Jan 85

["Face the People" program with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado in Jinotega on 26 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] Yesterday, at approximately 1800, some companeros were coming from Waslala to be present at this meeting. Mothers were coming with their children and other companeros. During their journey they were ambushed by the criminal mercenaries. Two children and a mother were murdered during this criminal ambush. Two more children and a mother must be added to the list of the murdered. There were also wounded and others reported missing. This is the kind of situation that the Nicaraguan people face every day; a people who wish to live in peace, to work and produce in peace, are being murdered every day. What makes this worse is that in the United States, the Government of the United States, the President of the United States, are asking the U.S. Congress for more money to continue killing the Nicaraguan people. However, we have faith in the American people, who are not aware that their money is being used to murder Nicaraguan people. Those funds, that money used to support the mercenary forces, the counterrevolutionary forces, is money that comes from the pockets of the American people. Many of the American people face economic, employment, and medical problems, but this money is not used for the good of the American people. The U.S. Government is using some of this money -- it has already used more than $80 million -- to murder Nicaraguan people. Just think of what the U.S. Government could do with those $80 million for the benefit of its own people, for the poor and the unemployed, or of what we could do in Nicaragua if the United States would have given us this money to build homes -- many people need homes here -- schools, or hospitals.

However, they have given all this money, and they are asking for still more money, for an additional $14 million, to destroy homes, schools, health centers, and cooperatives in Nicaragua, and what is worse, to destroy the lives of the Nicaraguan people, to kill Nicaraguan children, youths, and mothers. This meeting is marked by the grief of the Nicaraguan people. However, I could not overlook the fact that these children and mothers were ambushed by mercenaries.

Today, here and before the foreign press, we would like to stress the presence of the children. These are orphan children, who have lost their mothers and fathers. They represent the thousands of children who are orphaned by the U.S. aggression. Why? We want the foreign press to remember this. The real situation in Nicaragua is not always understood in the United States. It is, therefore, important now that the United States understand this situation. The U.S. Administration is asking for an additional $14 million to continue murdering Nicaraguan people, and, among other things, this will increase the number of orphaned children here and add to the grief and sorrow of the Nicaraguan people. This cannot be described as a struggle for democracy, and those who are murdering children and mothers cannot be described as freedom fighters.

This is why we have met here, today, because in late February or early March the U.S. Congress will discuss this subject. There are some who oppose the approval of this criminal aid, but there are others who defend it. And only the American people can change the minds of those who support this criminal aid. So it is important that the American people become aware of the fact that children and mothers are being murdered in Nicaragua.

As we toured Jinotega we saw war orphans. These are children who have become the victims of the aggressive and irrational policy that the U.S. Government sponsors. We said during the meeting that we are interested in talking with representatives of war orphans -- and there are many of them, several thousands -- to inform the people of the world, especially the people of the United States, about the actual results of the U.S. Government's policy toward Nicaragua, to let the American people know that each dollar the U.S. Congress approves to finance the so-called freedom fighters and freedom heroes, is a dollar that brings pain to the Nicaraguan people, the Nicaraguan family, the children, women, elderly people, and young people.

The best testimony of how these dollars are being used are the hundreds of children, the thousands of children, who have lost their fathers or their mothers in these 4 years of U.S. Government aggression that they have been enduring. Because of our interest in meeting with children from this region, from this department, yesterday afternoon children were coming with their parents from Waslala. They were ambushed by the heroes of freedom. The immediate result of the ambush: one mother and one child murdered. [figures as heard]

This type of testimony is important at this moment when the American people are discussing the U.S. Government's demand that $14 million more be approved to continue supporting the struggle for democracy, as they call it, in Nicaragua. The American people are unaware of how their money is used here in Nicaragua. Often they are misinformed, fooled by the lies that the U.S. Government issues every day. So it is necessary that the American people know that their dollars are being used to murder Nicaraguan children, to destroy schools, health centers, production centers and machinery for workers in

The U.S. news media, echoing what U.S. Government officials and the U.S. President had said, reported that this is a dangerous relationship, that it means terrorism in Central America, that surely treaties would be signed between Nicaragua and Iran because of this visit and that this would result in a greater arms buildup in Nicaragua and an increase in terrorist activities in Central America. This lie spread by the U.S. media, particularly during the past few days and yesterday, is a selfish measure aimed at getting support for a policy of aggression against Nicaragua, which is facing growing opposition within the United States. The U.S. Government has resorted to lies and infamy. First of all, if there is any government that can be called terrorist at this time, it is the U.S. Government, because it is a government that disrespects international law, a government that has ignored the international court of justice. When Nicaragua was going to file charges over U.S. criminal actions, so that the United States could prove whether its attitude toward Nicaragua is legal or illegal, that country leaves the court and ignores international law. Therefore, the United States has violated international law.

It is a paradox that the Battalions for Unconventional Warfare, the reserve battalions, and the people's militia are being used to defend peace. However, the truth is that there is no other way of defending peace when there is an enemy that is openly attacking us. That enemy is powerful and could invade us as it has done on other occasions.

The Nicaraguan revolution has never had the objective of keeping the people constantly mobilized militarily. On the contrary, the objective of the revolution is to have a professional and well-structured Army ready to defend the country from any aggression and to have the people also ready to defend themselves from aggression. But when an aggression takes place, we have to take action and face the aggressors. This is why we say that we are being forced to fight. We are being forced to mobilize under difficult conditions. Why are there the mobilizations and deployment of thousands of young people and the anguish in the homes: the pain of the mothers, the wives, the children during the separation? Why is there this situation? Have we looked for it? Do we wish it? This situation is being imposed on us by the United States.

What do we have to do to defend the Nicaraguan people's right to peace? We have to be militarily mobilized in order to defeat the arm of the U.S. policy toward Nicaragua, the military arm of that policy: the mercenary forces. By defeating that arm, by cutting off the arm of the U.S. military policy for Nicaragua, we will be forcing the U.S. Government to think carefully about the true Nicaraguan situation, to realize that it cannot defeat the Nicaraguan revolution with the mercenary forces, regardless of the terror they may sow.

The best thing is to understand each other, to negotiate, to talk, to reach an agreement with the Nicaraguan revolution. Their only other option -- if they don't want to accept the fact that there is a Nicaraguan revolution -- is to invade us, and if they do invade us they will be defeated. We are sure of that. The cost will be greater, but eventually they will have to acknowledge the Nicaraguan revolution.

By defeating the U.S. military attacks, we will be increasing the possibilities for peace. We will also be capturing the attention of the U.S. Government, in the hope that it will take the Contadora Group decisions seriously. Because we would like this war to end, the Nicaraguan Government and the Sandinist Directorate assume the responsibility before our people and express our determination to seek peace. Moreover, toward this end, we have complemented our revolutionary fighting against the mercenary forces with a very important measure -- the amnesty offer -- which will help to bring peace to the Nicaraguan people. If more Nicaraguans involved in counterrevolutionary activities lay down their weapons, the possibilities for the United States continuing its policy of attacking the Nicaraguan people through the mercenary forces will be reduced.

Then, as we said, the United States will have to take Contadora seriously, and it will have to be more serious about the talks in Manzanillo. The United States has said that the talks it was holding with Nicaragua in Manzanillo have not been totally broken off, but have been suspended indefinitely. The truth is that thus far, the United States has not demonstrated any real interest in a peaceful, political solution to the Central American problems, and specifically, to its problems with Nicaragua. It has not shown that willingness. It is also true that it has managed to ignore and evade its responsibilities in this conflict. Who can deny that the United States is the main factor in this conflict? Who can deny that the main factor of destabilization in Central America is the U.S. Government? But what is happening, and what has been happening?

The Contadora Group, whose initiative represents Latin America, has held discussions with the Central Americans. However, the United States has not sat down with the Central American countries. The United States should have been discussing these problems with the Central American countries from the beginning because it is a fundamental part of the conflict. The United States has evaded its responsibility by acting as an arbitrator that is not involved in the problem and saying: Well, we are going to help the Central Americans, who have problems among themselves -- particularly with Nicaragua -- to reach an understanding. The United States is not involved in any talks or negotiations, and instead it is assuming a false, cynical position, as if it had nothing to do with the conflict, and as if it is concerned and is trying to help us. We believe that as long as the United States does not assume its responsibility, it will be very difficult to resolve the conflict, which will instead grow worse.

Thus, we are obliged by these circumstances to organize, mobilize, and fight to defeat the aggressors sent by the United States, to defeat those mercenary forces. We want peace for the Nicaraguan people; this is most important. However, it must be a peace achieved by defending the interests of the revolution, which means the interests of the Nicaraguan people. You, companeros, who represent the will, the effort, the tenacity, the sacrifice of the thousands of fighters in the different combat zones, have a great responsibility toward yourselves, toward the Nicaraguan workers, the laborers, the peasants, the Nicaraguan children, the Nicaraguan mothers, so that the [word indistinct] mercenary activity can be broken up more rapidly, so that the mercenary activity can be neutralized. Only then will we come close to the possibility of peace for the Nicaraguan people, and peace for Nicaraguan society.

We want to leave with you a greeting and an embrace from the Nicaraguan Government and the National Directorate, which see in you all, and think of you as the continuation of the struggle that our people have historically waged against foreign imposition and foreign intervention. Because you are the sons of Andres Castro who stoned the Yankee interventionists in 1856, because you are the sons of Benjamin Zeledon, who faced the Yankee invaders in 1912 in Coyotepe, because you are the progeny and sons of Sandino, you are also the sons of Bolivar, you are also the sons of Narino, the sons of Marti, you are the sons of Carlos Fonseca, you are Sandino's pups.

Free Fatherland, [crowd responds: "Or Death"]. [applause]

MEXICO'S VALERO, PANAMA'S CABRERA VISIT

PA301740 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Ricardo Valero, Mexico's foreign relations under secretary, and Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera arrived today to meet with their Nicaraguan counterpart.

This visit is taking place 2 weeks prior to the forthcoming Contadora meeting. Costa Rica has announced that it will not participate in this meeting until the situation that has affected the bilateral relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua is resolved.

The visit by these officials has created expectation in diplomatic circles since it could represent a first step toward resolving the differences between the two Central American neighbors.

Meet Ortega, Depart

PA302149 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] This morning Commander Daniel Ortega, companero president of the Republic, held an informative meeting with Mexican Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Ricardo Valero and Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera, shortly before the two officials left Nicaragua. The officials arrived here yesterday and met with the Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister during the evening, discussing matters related to the next meeting of the Contadora foreign ministers. This meeting is scheduled to be held on 14 and 15 February in Panama City.

Asked about the situation of the Contadora Group as related to the next meeting, the Mexican foreign under secretary said:

[Begin recording] A plenipotentiaries meeting has been slated for 14 and 15 February. The meeting will be different from those held last year, which were of a technical nature. There are several aspects pending regarding the final approval of the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America. These aspects will be discussed at the coming meeting, which was convoked by the Contadora foreign ministers during their last meeting, in January. During the meeting, special consideration will be given to the drafting of the document's legal instruments, namely the execution, supervision, and control mechanisms of the accords provided by the document itself. This will be the meeting's main topic, and we hope it will be successful. [end recording]

MISKITO ELDERS URGE ACCEPTANCE OF AMNESTY

PA302158 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The Atlantic Coast region's Miskito Council of Elders has firmly urged all Miskitos participating in counterrevolutionary activities to accept the amnesty approved last week by the National Assembly at the request of President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, commander of the revolution.

(Rafael Victon) and (Isidro Zamora), members of the Council of Elders, the Miskitos' highest authority, have said that it would be a very positive step if the Indians in Honduras and Costa Rica would give up their arms and return to their communities.

(Victon) said that there are plans to form a commission composed of the best-known elders of the community to go to Miskito camps after they are assured by the Governments of Honduras and Costa Rica that they will be able to see their Indian brothers.

UK'S MORRIS VISITS HAVANA, TALKS WITH LEADERS

Honored by City Official

FL251440 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Temple Morris, president of the British Interparliamentary Group, today was declared illustrious guest of the city of Havana. In a solemn ceremoney held in a museum in the capital of Cuba, Oscar Fernandez Mell, president of the provincial assembly of the people's government, bestowed the honor on the visitor. In his address, Fernandez Mell said that, through his efforts, Temple Morris has contributed to strengthening relations between the British Parliament and the National Assembly of the People's Government. He stressed that the visit of the British MP is within the framework of the policy of rapprochement of the Cuban and British peoples and their parliaments. Fernandez Mell said: We wish to express our gratitude for the donation to us of the valuable documents on the taking of Havana by the British, which we requested when we visited London.

Mr Morris expressed his gratitude for the honor bestowed up on him and the attention the British MP had received from the Cuban authorities. Earlier the president of the Interparliamentary Group from London, accompanied by the British ambassador to Cuba, was received by Fernandez Mell in a special audience at the headquarters of the provincial executive committee.

Meets With Alarcon

FL301658 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] A meeting has taken place at the Foreign Ministry between Peter Temple Morris, president of the British Interparliamentary Group and member of the Conservative Party, and Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon. Also present at the meeting was UK Ambassador to Cuba Patrick Fearn.

Mr Temple Morris is the guest of the Cuban National Assembly and will conclude his visit to Cuba tomorrow. He arrived on 23 January.

CELEBRATION MARKS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW

FL300212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples [ICAP] and the Cuban-Polish Friendship Association have celebrated the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw from the fascist yoke. The celebration was held at the Antonio Maceo suit factory. ICAP Vice President Mario Rodriguez and Polish Ambassador to Cuba Stanislaw Jarzabek presided.

1985 TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FL281726 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Czechoslovakia will supply Cuba with machinery, equipment, important raw materials, and consumer goods under a 1985 trade protocol which has been signed in Prague. Cuba will export to Czechoslovakia raw sugar, fresh and processed citris fruit, chrome minerals, copper concentrate, and other products.

The document was signed by Cuba's and Czechoslovakia's foreign trade ministers, Ricardo Cabrisas and Bohumil Urban respectively. They expressed their satisfaction over the important trade agreement for their mutual benefit, and indicated their intention of increasing bilateral cooperation even more over the next 5 years.

The 1985 protocol signifies a 52-percent increase in comparison with last year's, according to the Cuban and Czechoslovak ministers.

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART ATTENDS OLADE MEETING IN RIO

FL290044 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] When he arrived in Rio de Janeiro, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, Cuban minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, said: Cuba observes with satisfaction and happiness the victory and return to democracy that Brazil is living today. Rodriguez Llompart is attending the meeting of the OLADE ministerial committee, which is meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

Brazilian Minister Opens Meeting

PA300222 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Cesar Cals de Oliveira, Brazilian minister for mines and energy, has defended the creation of a Latin American common market and said that he does not think Cuba's eventual participation will create any restrictions. Cals opened the 11th meeting of the OLADE ministerial committee in Brazil. In addition to Brazil, the meeting is being attended by Argentine, Ecuadoran, Guatemalan, Nicaraguan, Surinamese, and Venezuelan representatives, while Cuba, Jamaica, and Haiti are attending the meeeting as observers. Cals said that Brazil believes these countries' economies will be strengthened as soon as a Latin American common market is created. The Cuban delegation is headed by Hector Rodriquez Llompart, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

CAUSES, REPRESSION OF AREA UNREST VIEWED

PA302258 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 29 Jan 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Official repression and terrorism are the methods preferred by numberous Latin American regimes for checking the people's unrest and protests, which are caused by exploitation. In effect, whenever efforts are made to establish dialogue to resolve international conflicts, and some of the regional governments resort to talks to resolve their domestic problems, the ruling classes in other nations in the area insist on resorting to brute force, torture, and crime, allegedly to resolve social crisis. In the first days of this year alone, more than 14 Latin Americans died as a result of official repression of workers' strikes and protests. To this one must add dozens of persons injured and detained.

A quick look at various points of the hemisphere enables one to explain these assertions: In the Dominican Republic, without any prior consultation with either the unions or the people's organizations, the government decided to implement severe restrictions, which elicited the people's just ire, as they are the first to bear the consequences of the very grave economic problem faced by that Caribbean nation.

In the face of the people's protests, the response could not have been more brutal: Both the police and Army gave free rein to their instincts, and violence enthroned itself in the streets, to which the people had taken to demand bread and security.

A few days earlier Jamaica, which Washington had tried to present as a prosperous and happy Caribbean state under Edward Seaga's administration, had also been the scene of police excesses against demonstrators expressing their disagreement with the government's acceptance of the economic plans imposed by the IMF, which result in even less protection for both workers and peasants.

Meanwhile, the security forces and paramilitary groups have turned Guatemala into an empire of crime. Not even the churchmen who decide to share the people's fate escape repression. In 1984 alone, according to a charge by the so-called Mutual Support Group, 3,000 people disappeared in that Central American nation for political reasons. Oscar Mejia Victores' regime has not resolved one of these cases.

A similar situation exists in El Salvador, where the Army and ultraright-wing organizations are responsible for murdering thousands of labor and peasant leaders. The kidnapping of Salvador Escalante, secretary of the Revolutionary Trade Union Federation, is still fresh in the people's mind. Escalante's abduction followed pressures and intimidations from the armed groups and the indifference of Jose Napoleon Duarte's regime to the clamor for peace and work of over 20,000 people, who recently took to the streets of the smallest Central American country.

For its part, the Honduran Army started 1985 by forcibly evicting over 600 unemployed people who had seized the metropolitan cathedral to demand from the government, which is absorbed in aggression against Nicaragua in its role as the U.S. pawn in the area, the payment of overdue wages and the creation of more jobs.

Paraguay, under Alfredo Stroessner's harsh rule for several decades, bears the painful record of 360,000 citizens who, one way or another, have been jailed, while another 500,000 live in exile to avoid being killed or tortured. Thirty years of a continued state of siege tarnish the history of this South American nation where, as in Pinochet's Chile, barbarism and brute force are inherent to the regime of force imposed on this nation.

With these things in mind, it might be worth asking Washington's analysts whether there are reasons in Latin America for social conflicts to erupt and for the peoples to rise against the exploitation and misery stemming from situations at home and abroad. These social eruptions reveal the falsehold of statements by those who mention Cuba and the Soviet Union when looking for the alleged culprits.

DOMINICA

CHARLES: GOVERNMENT WILL NOT SCRAP INCOME TAX

FL302058 Bridgetown CANA in English 1810 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 30, CANA -- The Dominica Government has said that it has no plan to abolish income tax and it questioned the seriousness of opposition politicians who back abolition. Addressing supporters of her Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) last night, Prime Minister and Finance Minister Eugenia Charles said she was not in favour of scrapping income tax because the government needed the 17-million dollars (one EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) it brings in yearly for fuelling the economy. But she said the Dominica Government would continue to review the income tax laws with a view to providing a measure of relief to citizens.

She warned that should income tax be abolished there would be a significant increase in the price of various basic commodities -- such as rice, sugar, and cement.

Any government that comes and tells you they are going to abolish income tax, they are lying to you, she said. Income tax is the only way that government has for taking from those who have to help those who haven't got.

It was the recently-formed Labour Party of Dominica (LPD) that promised abolition of income tax if it wins the next election.

Miss Charles said that, of the 74-million EC dollars the government has earmarked for expenditure during the financial year, 51 per cent would go towards paying salaries and wages. The 17-million dollars tax on incomes would bring was vital to the treasury, she said. I would like to abolish income tax...but let us be realistic. We have to pay for services, she said.

The Dominica Government this year introduced a new income tax system, saying it should bring some measure of relief to workers.

JAMAICA

EEC APPROVES FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROJECT

FL302356 Bridgetown CANA in English 2240 GMT 20 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 30, CANA -- The European Community has approved a U.S. 3.5 million dollar public health project for Jamaica, which will see the strengthening of local laboratory services, the head of EEC delegation in Kingston, Roger Booth, announced today. To be executed over three years, a large part involves the construction and equipping of a new central laboratory in Kingston, as well as supplying laboratory equipment for 17 hospitals and 77 health centres.

Three new refrigerated vans are also to be acquired to upgrade the transport services for specimens and samples, and EEC funding will also be available for seminars and short term studies to train laboratory staff, Booth said.

The approval of this project brings to J86.3 million dollars (a little over 16.3 million dollars U.S. at the present exchange rate), the aid approved for Jamaica by the EEC under the second Lome Agreement.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON IMF MEASURES, PROPOSED LAWS

FL301910 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 24 Jan 85 pp 1, 14

[By Maximo Manuel Perez]

[Excerpts] President Salvador Jorge Blanco announced last night the unification of the types of exchange, through which all buying and selling in dollars will be conducted at the parallel market exchange rate. In an address to the nation, the president also said that he will soon propose two laws to the Chamber of Deputies, one for a 225-peso minimum monthly salary for public employees, and the other for a 10-percent increase for those who already earn between 225 and 500 pesos a month.

Jorge Blanco said the Central Bank "would continue giving dollars to the Dominican Petroleum Refinery, the Dominican Electricity Corporation, and the public and private organizations that have outstanding foreign debts which have been properly registered and approved." However, he said that this money would not be made on par with the peso, but would be on "the average rate of the free market's last period, according to a provision in the IMF resolutions."

Jorge Blanco also announced the following exchange and money measures: The IMF has stipulated that the funds generated by the export of goods and services be exchanged at the Central Bank for national currency at the market exchange rate. Under the new conditions, for each dollar exported, the traditional exporter will receive the equivalent in pesos at the free market rate.

The decree established the Fund for Exchange Stabilization that will operate under the Central Bank and be temporarily funded by a 36-percent surcharge which the IMF has established, and which will be aplied to traditional export goods and services in general, excluding tourism. A 5-percent surcharge on nontraditional exports has been established. Also by decree, we have modified the tax scale on coffee and cacao exports to update them with the situation created by the unification of exchange.

By decree, all sugar producers, without exception, must fulfill their corresponding sugar and molasses quotas to the domestic market. Those that do not fill their quotas will have their preferential market quotas reduced.

The IMF has provided for the issuing of 16-percent interest rate bonds of stabilization. These will pay an attractive interest rate to investors and banks.

The IMF has decided not to grant new credits in the form of advances or discounts, limiting these matters to renewing credits already granted. Also, the interest rates charged by the Central Bank have been increased to discourage the use of those resources.

Several hours before his speech, Jorge Blanco called a special meeting of the council of government at the National Palace to inform them of his speech. Jorge Blanco was introduced to the council of government members by Secretary to the Presidency Hatuey de Camps, who had moved to hold the meeting. Present at the meeting were the secretaries of state, directors and general administrators, and coordinators and leaders who back the president in the Dominican Revolutionary Party. Also present were the chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces and the National Police.

JACKSON TO MEET VENEZUELAN MINISTER ON ESSEQUIBO

FL301254 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The foreign ministers of Venezuela and Guyana will meet February 6 in Georgetown to begin a series of talks about the disputed Essequibo region. That's the mineral rich section of land in western Guyana which Venezuela is claiming.

Venezuela's Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul says his talks with Guyana's Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson will take place in a positive atmosphere and on a level of mutual respect.

OFFICIALS TO MEDIATE IN SURINAME REFUGEE DISPUTE

FL301314 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Guyanese officials have agreed to mediate between the Government of Suriname and Guyanese deportees claiming to have left thousands of guilders behind after their sudden repatriation.

The Guyanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that Guyana's Ambassador to Suriname Christopher Jones will meet with Surinamese officials to discuss compensating the refugees.

More than 2,000 Guyanese were deported after Suriname security forces led a massive housecleaning operation 12 days ago.

CORRECTION TO INDEPENDENT PARTY CREATED

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Anticolonialist Independent Party Created," published in the 28 January Latin America DAILY REPORT, page T 2:

Paragraph one, line two reads: ...Anticolonialist and Anti-imperialist Guianese (PANGA), an independent... (changing "Guyanese" to "Guianese")

Lines four and five read: ...struggle to achieve Guiana's independence, making use... (changing "Guyana's" to "Guiana's")

Paragraph two, lines two and three read: ..."Creoles" (in the Guianese sense of the... (changing "Guyanese" to "Guianese")

Lines three and four read: ...country. "PANGA" in Guianese Creole means: "Be... (changing "Guyanese" to "Guianese")